

**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

August 2, 2017

4:00 p.m.

Warren Green Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

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**Attendance:**

Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)  
Jack LaMonica (Marshall District Representative)  
Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)  
Reta Rodgers (Cedar Run District Representative)  
John Toler (Scott District Representative)  
Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)

**Absent:**

Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

**Guest:**

Ken Alm

**Staff:**

Wendy Wheatcraft, Preservation Planner  
Maureen Williamson, Staff

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1. Ms. Root called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The July 7, 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed. Ms. Root made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 – 0.
3. Ongoing Business
  - Farm Building Workshop - October 13, 2017  
Ms. Wheatcraft distributed the names of the six farms that the Agricultural Development Department selected for this year's annual Farm Tour and Field Day. She noted learning that there is only one, perhaps two, farms that have documented historic components. She reminded the ARB that the original objective was to bring attention to historic agricultural outbuildings. Since there was a lack of outbuildings on the 2017 tour, she suggested that perhaps it might be best to amend the original plan.

Ms. Wheatcraft presented an idea to hold the same type of event at another location and suggested Weston, a historic farm located near Casanova owned by the Warrenton Antiquarian Society. She reported that Weston has several out buildings and she would be willing to look into whether the main house has space that would be conducive to a presentation. Mr. Jacobs noted that the main house is fairly small. Ms. Wheatcraft mentioned the idea of putting up a tent, outside on the grounds of the property, but then noted that access to power might be an issue.

Mr. Jacobs said that approximately one mile from Weston is Grace Episcopal Church also near Casanova and he offered to make arrangements for the ARB to use the parish

hall for a presentation. He suggested that a tour of Weston could be given with a presentation to follow at the parish hall. Ms. Wheatcraft asked the ARB if they felt this proposed idea would be better as part of the Farm Tour day on Saturday or as an event on the Friday before. Ms. Root raised the concern that holding this type of event may be perceived as competing with the Farm Tour. She said that perhaps it would be better to forego participation in this year's Farm Tour and hope that older, historic farms are included in next year's list. Ms. Root expressed interest in forming a subcommittee to create a brochure detailing historic farm outbuildings. She said that Ray Pickering could have the brochure available for Farm Tour attendees at the six locations on the tour. She added that maybe this is the ARB's contribution to public education.

The ARB discussed the demographic make-up of the Farm Tour. They agreed that attendance is generally made up of visitors to the area including families from more urban areas who wish to spend a day in the country. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the target audience for a workshop involving the preservation and/or reuse of historic outbuildings would include Fauquier County property owners with agricultural outbuildings. Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB that the goal of the workshop sessions was to get property owners to attend, as guest speakers, like Andy Sorrell with the Century Farm Program and Elizabeth Tune with DHR's incentive programs, have agreed to give presentations. She explained that she was thinking the workshop sessions would be held on the Friday before the Farm Tour.

Ms. Root mentioned that Nancy Brittle's property in Remington may have historic outbuildings as it is a contributing resource to the Remington Historic District. She asked if the property has ever been surveyed and proposed it as a potential candidate for presenting the architectural survey process to the public. Ms. Wheatcraft noted that Maral Kalbian surveyed the property before the district was added to the National Register, but it was probably time to resurvey the property, considering the amount of time that has elapsed since the nomination.

Mr. Jacobs noted having a contact for Joel Tate, a retired Professor from Germanna Community College who participated on an archaeological study of a slave quarters at James Madison's Montpelier estate. He suggested that another subject to present to the public might be the results of such study, considering the number of Fauquier County slave quarters that have been identified.

If the ARB wanted to keep to the agricultural outbuilding theme, Ms. Gerrish suggested a presentation given by Denae Spencer of the National Barn Alliance. Ms. Wheatcraft said that Ms. Spencer could speak on the history of barns in the Piedmont area including the burning of barns during the Civil War. Ms. Gerrish suggested that the presentation could be held at the Grace Episcopal Church's parish hall.

Ms. Wheatcraft said she would contact Weston to ask if they would open the facility for such an event. She will also ask about the possibility of hosting a group session in one of the historic outbuildings. Mr. Jacobs said that he would pursue information about the possibility of meeting at Grace Episcopal Church parish hall on Friday, October 13.

#### 4. New Business

- Planning ARB Activities/Events Focus for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year  
The ARB focused their attention to brainstorming ideas for workshops for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Mr. Alm noted having found value in the masonry walking tour in Old Town Warrenton that was held in connection with the 2015 Masonry Workshop. He feels that it would be advantageous to have such a building trades workshop again and partner with the Town of Warrenton on a more frequent basis, perhaps inviting Town representatives who have a say in the restoration of historic buildings.

Mr. LaMonica suggested an event centered on plaster and stucco. Ms. Wheatcraft remembered previously presenting some information regarding these materials during the Masonry Workshop and recalled some discussion amongst ARB members about presenting a workshop regarding stucco during an earlier meeting. She commented on having noticed several buildings in the county and Warrenton that have been stuccoed at a later time. She told the ARB of her theory that since stucco was marketed as a fire resistant product in the early 20th century, there was a good possibility that stucco was widely applied as a fire retardant, especially after the 1909 fire in Warrenton.

Ms. Gerrish proposed the ARB host a Building Trades Day and to offer presentations given by experts of varied trades. Mr. Alm said that whether it be a workshop on stucco or plaster, the public wants to hear professional advice on how to hire a tradesman and what questions to ask during the hiring process. He said the ARB could refer to the event as an “informed consumer workshop.” Ms. Wheatcraft said that the ARB should pull in some historical aspect to make the event more versatile and comprehensive.

Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB that the planning and coordination for a Building Trades Day would be extensive. She noted that if it would be an all-day event, the budget may have to include an allocation for a lunch and snacks, and there would probably be an added expense of honorariums for the speakers.

The ARB also discussed the maintenance and/or repair of chimneys as a topic for an event. Mr. Alm said the speaker’s material could include what to look for in a professionally certified chimney repair professional. Mr. LaMonica noted having a chimney restoration contact who has done work at the White House.

5. Announcements

- No announcements were made.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

7. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6.